Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A system for managing configuration inconsistencies between a network management system (NMS) and network elements (NEs), the system comprising:

a user-interface including:

an object field configured to identify database objects of the network management system, wherein each database object possibly corresponds to a network element;

a status field configured to display a database object state, wherein the database object state represents a relationship between a database object configuration and a ~~the~~ network element configuration, wherein if an inconsistency is found between the database object configuration and the network element configuration, the inconsistency is shown as one of a plurality of configuration inconsistency types, the plurality of configuration inconsistency types including:

a ~~conflict~~ first inconsistency type, meaning ~~some~~ an inconsistency exists between the database object configuration and the network element configuration;

a ~~local~~ second inconsistency type, meaning no network element exists for a selected database object; and

~~an agent~~ a third inconsistency type, meaning that a network element exists, but that no corresponding database object exists;

one or more selectable input mechanisms, each input mechanism performing a different action, wherein the inconsistency type shown is used to determine an input mechanism that, when selected by the user, performs an action that automatically resolves the inconsistency by editing the database object configuration and/or the network element configuration.

2. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ network element values define ~~the~~ configuration of the network element, and

wherein ~~the~~ database object values define ~~the~~ configuration of the database object.

3. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein a state of the database object is ~~one-of:~~

normal, meaning both the database object and the network element have exactly the same configuration.

4. (currently amended) The system of Claim ~~3~~ 2, wherein the inconsistency type is ~~conflict~~ the first inconsistency type, and the input mechanism is configured to issue a command to have the network element acquire the database object values.

5. (currently amended) The system of Claim ~~3~~ 2, wherein the inconsistency type is ~~conflict~~ the first inconsistency type, and the input mechanism is configured to issue a command to have the database object acquire the network element values.

6. (currently amended) The system of Claim ~~3~~ 2, wherein the state of the inconsistency type is ~~LOCAL~~ the second inconsistency type, and the input mechanism is configured to issue a command to create a network element having the database object values.

7. (currently amended) The system of Claim ~~3~~ 2, wherein the state of the inconsistency type is ~~agent~~ the third inconsistency type, and the input mechanism is configured to issue a command to create a database object having the network element values.

8. (currently amended) A method for managing attribute inconsistencies between a network management system (NMS) and a network element (NE), the method comprising:

providing an object field in a user interface to identify database objects of the network management system, wherein each database object possibly corresponds to a network element;

providing a status field configured to display a database object state, wherein the database object state represents a relationship between a database object configuration and ~~the~~ a network element configuration;

if an inconsistency is found between the database object configuration and the network element configuration, displaying the inconsistency as one of a plurality of configuration inconsistency types, the plurality of configuration inconsistency types including:

a ~~conflict~~ first inconsistency type, meaning ~~some~~ an inconsistency exists between the database object configuration and the network element configuration;

a ~~local~~ second inconsistency type, meaning no network element exists for a selected database object; and

~~an agent~~ a third inconsistency type, meaning that a network element exists, but that no corresponding database object exists;

receiving a selection of one or more input mechanisms, wherein each input mechanism performing a different action, wherein the inconsistency type shown is used to determine an input mechanism that performs an action that automatically resolves the inconsistency by editing the database object configuration and/or the network element configuration.

9. (currently amended) The method of Claim 8, wherein ~~the~~ network element values define ~~the~~ configuration of the network element, and wherein ~~the~~ database object values define ~~the~~ configuration of the database object.

10. (previously presented) The method of Claim 8, further comprising providing in the object field a state of the database object as being:

normal, meaning both the database object and the network element have exactly the same configuration.

11. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~10~~ 9, wherein the inconsistency type is ~~conflict~~ the first inconsistency type, the method further comprising receiving a selection

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of an input mechanism to issue a command to have the network element acquire the database object values.

12. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~10~~ 9, wherein the inconsistency type is ~~conflict~~ the first inconsistency type, the method further comprising receiving a selection of an input mechanism to issue a command to have the database object acquire the network element values.

13. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~10~~ 9, wherein the state of the inconsistency type is ~~LOCAL~~ the second inconsistency type, the method further comprising receiving a selection of an input mechanism to issue a command to create a network element having the database object values.

14. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~10~~ 9, wherein the state of the inconsistency type is ~~agent~~ the third inconsistency type, the method further comprising receiving a selection of an input mechanism to issue a command to create a database object having the network element values.

15. (original) The method of Claim 8, further comprising:
resynchronizing the network management system and the network element; and
carrying out the command to edit one of the network element values and the database object values.

16. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions for managing attribute inconsistencies between a network management system (NMS) and a network element (NE), the one or more sequences of one or more instructions including instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

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providing an object field in a user interface to identify database objects of the network management system, wherein each database object possibly corresponds to a network element;

providing an agent field configured to identify the network element;

providing a status field configured to display a database object state, wherein the database object state represents a relationship between a database object configuration and a network element configuration;

if an inconsistency is found between the database object configuration and the network element configuration, displaying the inconsistency as one of a plurality of configuration inconsistency types, the plurality of configuration inconsistency types including:

a conflict first inconsistency type, meaning some an inconsistency exists between the database object configuration and the network element configuration;

a local second inconsistency type, meaning no network element exists for a selected database object; and

an agent a third inconsistency type, meaning that a network element exists, but that no corresponding database object exists;

receiving a selection of one or more input mechanisms, wherein each input mechanism performing a different action, wherein the inconsistency type shown is used to determine an input mechanism that performs an action that automatically resolves the inconsistency by editing the database object configuration and/or the network element configuration.

17. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the network element values define the configuration of the network element, and wherein the database object values define the configuration of the database object.

18. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the instructions further cause the processor to carry out the step of providing in the object field a state of the database object as being:

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normal, meaning both the database object and the network element have exactly the same configuration.

19. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim ~~18~~ 17, wherein the inconsistency type is ~~conflict~~ the first inconsistency type, and wherein the instructions further cause the processor to issue a command to have the network element acquire the database object values.

20. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim ~~18~~ 17, wherein the inconsistency type is ~~conflict~~ the first inconsistency type, and wherein the instructions further cause the processor to issue a command to have the database object acquire the network element values.

21. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim ~~18~~ 17, wherein the inconsistency type is ~~LOCAL~~ the second inconsistency type, and wherein the instructions further cause the processor to issue a command to create a network element having the database object values.

22. (presently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim ~~18~~ 17, wherein the inconsistency type is ~~agent~~ the third inconsistency type, and wherein the instructions further cause the processor to issue a command to create a database object having the network element values.

23. (original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the instructions further cause the processor to carry out the steps of:
    resyncing the network management system and the network element; and carrying out the command to edit one of the network element values and the database object values.